(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



A COLUMNIA DE COMENCACION DE COMENCA

(43) International Publication Date 17 May 2001 (17.05.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 01/035617 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification7: 3/523, 3/42
- H04M 3/51,
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/41354
- (22) International Filing Date: 20 October 2000 (20.10.2000)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 09/430,378

29 October 1999 (29.10.1999) US

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TEL-ERA, INC. [US/US]; 910 East Hamilton Avenue, Suite 200, Campbell, CA 95008 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): UPPALURU, Prem [US/US]; 11853 Shasta Spring Court, Cupertino, CA 95014 (US). SUNDARAM, Mukesh [US/US]; 5364 Gower Drive, San Jose, CA 95118 (US).

- (74) Agents: MALLIE, Michael, J. et al.; Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman LLP, 7th Floor, 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

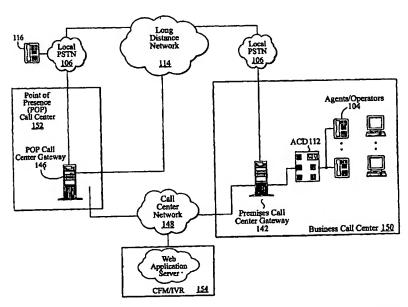
Published:

with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 12 September 2002

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DISTRIBUTED CALL CENTER WITH LOCAL POINTS OF PRESENCE



(57) Abstract: A Virtual Intelligent Network (VIN) featuring a distributed call center system capable of answering, servicing, queuing and routing of calls at local point of presence (152) to reduce communications costs and enhance operational efficiency for inbound and outbound call centers. The VIN includes a set of point-of-presence call center gateways (146) distributed at points of presence close to the point of call origination (116) that are connected by a user controlled virtual private network to premises call center gateways (142) at business locations where the call centers reside.

01/035617 A3



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interional Application No PCT/US 00/41354

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04M3/51 H04M H04M3/42 Ĥ04M3/523 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) HO4M IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to daim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 1-51 WO 99 20032 A (BRADY PATRICK K) A 22 April 1999 (1999-04-22) page 3, line 4 -page 5, line 14 page 10, line 6 -page 11, line 5 figure 1 1-51 WO 99 23584 A (FRIEDMAN MARK M ; IOTA IND Α LTD (IL); STERN YONATAN PESACH (IL)) 14 May 1999 (1999-05-14) page 9 -page 10 1-51 US 5 771 275 A (GLITHO ROCH ET AL) Α 23 June 1998 (1998-06-23) column 2, line 14 - line 43 1-51 WO 99 26395 A (GENESYS TELECOMM LAB INC) Α 27 May 1999 (1999-05-27) page 4, line 13 -page 6, line 2 Patent family members are listed in annex. X Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the investment. Special categories of cited documents: *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to — involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cried to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 21/05/2002 10 May 2002 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Schweitz, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No PCT/US 00/41354

	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	Relevant to claim No.
ategory *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	
	EP 0 660 573 A (AT & T CORP) 28 June 1995 (1995-06-28) column 5, line 8	1-51
		*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Intentional Application No PCT/US 00/41354

Patent document clted in search report			Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
นก	9920032	A	22-04-1999	CA	2303840 A1	22-04-1999
WU	3320UJZ	^	22 01 2303	EP	1038385 A1	27-09-2000
				WO	9920032 A1	22-04-1999
	-		•	US	6226287 B1	01-05-2001
MU	9923584	A	14-05-1999	US	6161107 A	12-12-2000
NO	332000	• •	-,	AU	1371599 A	24-05-1999
				WO	9923584 A2	14-05-1999
IIS	5771275	A	23-06-1998	AU	724375 B2	21-09-2000
00		••		AU	-7740998 A	15-07-1998
				BR	9713945 A	21-03-2000
				WO	9827765 A2	25-06-1998
HO.	9926395	Α	27-05-1999	US	6104802 A	15-08-2000
MO	3320030			AU	744340 B2	21-02-2002
				AU	1120099 A	07-06-1999
				CA	2309185 Al	27-05-1999
				CN	1282484 T	31-01-2001
				EP	1040638 A1	04-10-2000
				WO	9926395 A1	27-05-1999
				US	2002037076 A1	28-03-2002
FP	0660573	Α	28-06-1995	US	5528678 A	18-06-1996
L	000070	,,	. 20 11 1910	CA	2135949 A1	28-06-1995
	•			CN	1112344 A	22-11-1995
				EP	0660573 A2	28-06-1995
				JP	3177571 B2	18-06-2001
				JP	7212471 A	11-08-1995